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Music Library Association

New England Chapter

Newsletter no. 74

June 1987

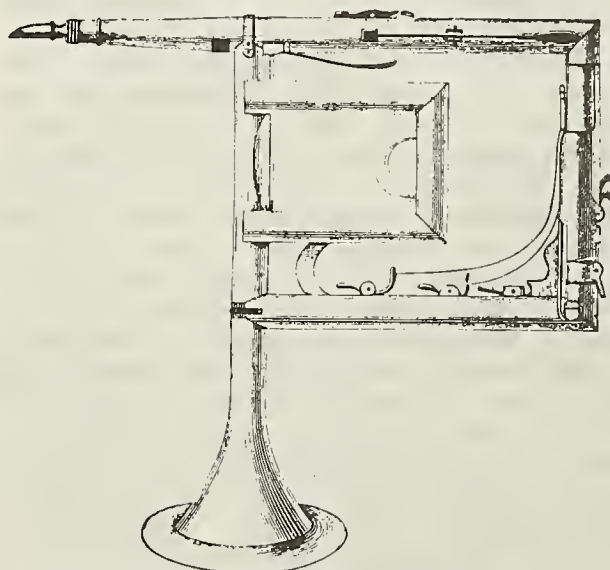
Published quarterly in September, December, March and June. Address all correspondence concerning editorial matters to Dawn Thistle, Editor, c/o Music Library, College of the Holy Cross, 1 College St., Worcester, MA 01610. Inquiries concerning subscription and membership should be addressed to Tish Brennan, Secretary-Treasurer, 31 Sheldon, Providence, RI 02903. Institutional subscription: \$5.00. Free to members. Regular Personal Membership: \$4.00. Student and Retired Membership: \$2.50. Membership year runs September to August.

~~~FALL MEETING~~~ ANNOUNCEMENT

The fall meeting of NEMLA will be held on Friday, October 23, 1987. The morning session will be held at the University of Lowell, with the program covering the topics of 19th century music in the Lowell area and reviewing music. The afternoon will be spent at the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover and will include tours of the facility and demonstrations of conservation procedures. It promises to be a fascinating day!

~~~REPORT OF THE~~~ SPRING MEETING

The Spring meeting of the New England chapter was held May 8, 1987, at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. Paula Matthews (Bates College), Vice-Chair/ Chair-Elect, welcomed participants to Dartmouth, as did William Summers, Chair of the Music Department. The two morning sessions were each offered twice, which allowed the group to be divided into two smaller groups, more easily accommodating the demonstration aspects of the sessions. Jon Appleton, Professor of Music, Dartmouth College, conducted a lecture demonstration in the recently renovated Bregman Electronic Music Studio. The centerpiece of the studio is a Synclavier Digital Music System, which is accompanied by an array of sound recording and production equipment. Each of sixteen student workstations is equipped with a MacIntosh computer linked to a master computer. Professor Appleton recorded a



simple musical example, then demonstrated how it could be modified in various ways, including transposition, inversion and amplification. He also discussed the sociology of electroacoustic music, using as an example, its impact on film music. Where formerly a composer, arranger, editor, and performers were required to produce film music, now a sole composer and a digital instrument can create music for a film. The impact is similar in the commercial music industry. Professor Appleton stated that sales of digital keyboards have increased from 385,000 in 1983 to 1,800,000 in 1986. There has been a concomitant decline in sales of "traditional" instruments during that period. Digital instruments are changing the ways in which music is created, heard and taught, and by whom it is created; it opens new opportunities for more people to compose music.

The second morning session was presented by Larry Peterson, Professor of Music, University of Delaware, which was a lecture/demonstration on "Interactive Videodisc". Professor Peterson explained that his presentation concerned 12 inch laser videodisc, also referred to as "laserdiscs". There are four levels of videodisc players, ranging from Level 0 (playback only, not interactive) to Level 4 which is interactive and combines a computer with an additional external input. Professor Peterson finds Level 3 (interactive plus computer) to be most appropriate for music teaching and music library applications. He demonstrated portions of the University of Delaware Videodisc Series, prepared under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The series is a revolutionary teaching aid, allowing for simultaneous display of score, formal analysis, and/or demonstration of performance practice and performance technique. The initial pressing of the series is sold out, but it may be commercially marketed in the future. Professor Peterson discussed various pieces of hardware, books on interactive videodiscs, and displayed a number of commercial releases of opera on videodisc. The morning session concluded with a business meeting, at which election results were announced: Ross Wood (Wellesley College) is the new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and Sarah Shaw (Brown University) is the new Secretary/Treasurer.

A buffet luncheon was held at the Hanover Inn. At the conclusion of the luncheon, a retirement celebration for Ethel Bacon, Music Librarian at the Hartt School of Music was held. Dorothy Bognar (University of Connecticut) and Sylvia St. Amand (Springfield, MA City Library) paid tribute to Ethel's 35 years of service to the Hartt School, and presented her with a gift from the members of the chapter.

The afternoon sessions opened with a demonstration of the Dartmouth College Online Catalog, by Kathy Klemperer, Director of Library Automation. Begun in 1981 as a pilot project with BRS Search to develop a user friendly interface to an online catalog, the collection is now almost completely converted. Dartmouth

has a college-wide computer network, whereby faculty and students can access the library catalog via MacIntosh computers, which a large percentage of the college community now own. The concluding session on the "Williams-Watson Theatre and Music Collection Title II Project" was presented by Virginia Bartow, Project Librarian, and Bonnie Wallin, Special Collections Assistant, Theatre; Charles Hamm, Professor of Music at Dartmouth College, was also in attendance, and offered observations about the wealth of resources contained in such a collection. The collection was assembled from various locations on the Dartmouth campus in honor of Henry Williams, former Professor of Theatre at Dartmouth. A Title II project is underway to catalog 7,500 plays, 12,000 theatre programs, and to provide brief cataloging for a sheet music collection of some 22,000 titles. The cataloging is done on RLIN and is also loaded into OCLC. Examples of cataloging records were displayed, as were actual items from the collection.

The meeting concluded with a very pleasant sherry hour in the handsome Treasure Room of the Baker Library.
---Pam Juengling, University of Massachusetts, Amherst



~~~REPORTS OF~~~  
NATIONAL MEETINGS

RLG Music Program Committee:

The RLG Music Program Committee met on 15 February 1987. A proposal for a new verification of the music conspectus was presented. Two separate analyses would be done: one for books about music (ML111-ML134, music bibliographies; ML385-ML429, biographies) and one for printed music (M2, collections of musical sources; M3, composers collected works; M300-M986, chamber ensemble music). Suggestions were made concerning which tools would be used for the analysis.

The Collection Development Group presented the possibility of doing cooperative collection development for twentieth century music. This would be for lesser known composers and would insure that all twentieth century composers were being collected by at least one library in RLG.

Committee members will fill out a survey on ILL lending policies for sound recordings.

The committee reviewed Leslie Hume's draft of criteria for developing special data bases in RLIN. Two data bases are under consideration by the music program committee: the RISM-US music manuscripts cataloging records and the Center for Beethoven Studies Beethoven bibliography. Both present some problems technically, but look like promising candidates.

-----Carol Tatian (Brown University)

Music OCLC Users Group:

The MOUG Annual Meeting was held February 10-11, 1987, preceding the MLA Annual Meeting. The Tuesday evening Plenary Session I featured "News from OCLC" by Joan Schuitema and Jay Weitz, and "News from LC" by Catherine Garland. Joan's news about products and services included examples of screen displays for the New Online System. Jay talked about the latest online quality control activities. A question and answer period followed.

Wednesday morning's Plenary Session II centered on "Implementing an Online System," addressing the systems librarian's perspective, the music cataloger's perspective, preparing for implementation (barcoding, etc.), and user education. After lunch and the business meeting, participants broke into smaller groups for sessions on problem sharing, NACO, recon (at Oberlin), ENHANCE, and using the M300. A favorite suggestion from these sessions: prefer the terms "frontlog" or "in-process collection" to (dare we say the word?) "backlog". Detailed summaries of most of the sessions are reported in MOUG Newsletter, April 1987.

-----Ken Pristash, New England Conservatory

Music Library Association, 56th Annual Meeting:

MLA held its 56th Annual Meeting in Eugene, Oregon from February 11-14th, 1987. NEMLA was well represented. I counted the following among attendees: Tish Brennan, Kay Burnett, Sally Evans, Robert Evensen, Pat Fiskien, Frank Gramenz, Dena Janson, Carolyn Johnson, Pam Juengling, Paula Matthews, Patrick Maxfield, Jerry McBride, Jean Morrow, Michael Ochs, Diane Ota, Jennifer Post, Ken Pristash, Sarah Shaw, Linda Solow Blotner, Brenda Chasen Goldman, Carol Tatian, Dawn Thistle (newly appointed MLA Publicity Officer), Susan Waddington, Marlene Wong, Ross Wood, as well as former NEMLA members and old friends: Steve Yusko, Phil Youngholm, Gerry Ostrove, and Mary Wallace Davidson. We all enjoyed the beautiful weather, excellent facilities and local arrangements, a varied and interesting program, and social highlights, such as a tour of Oregon wineries in the Eugene area, a concert at the University of Oregon at Eugene, and Friday night's banquet which featured the Chicken Singers II concert, square and contra dancing, and superb food. [The NEMLA Newsletter Editor's Prize for Excellence in Socializing goes to Frank Gramenz and Ken Pristash for double-handedly keeping the New England contingent of women dancing until the band went home!]



Descriptions of various sessions, the business meeting, and committee activities have been reported in detail in the most recent MLA Newsletter (Nr. 68, March-April 1987). Sessions which I found particularly useful were "Exhibiting Music Materials", which featured a lively presentation by NEMLA's Michael Ochs, who described an exhibit which he mounted at Harvard in 1984 for a meeting of the Sonneck Society; "Library Resources in Special Areas of Music", which covered film music, contemporary music, women in music, and popular music and rock; and the Small Academic Libraries Roundtable entitled "Automation in the Small Library", again featuring a NEMLA speaker, Carolyn Johnson from Connecticut College. There were excellent handouts distributed at many sessions and the exhibits area contained a wide variety of riches which I'm sure that all NEMLA members attending would be delighted to share with anyone.

Next year's meeting will be in Minneapolis from February 9-13, 1988. I hope that NEMLA will be able to send as many members to what promises to be another excellent meeting.

-----Paula Matthews, Bates College



~~~PEOPLE~~~  
IN THE NEWS

NEMLA welcomes two new members:
CHRIS MONTGOMERY, Librarian, at the Olin Library at Wesleyan University, and

RICHARD SLAPSYS, Reference Librarian at the O'Leary Library of the University of Lowell.

~~~PUBLICATIONS~~~

The Music OCLC Users Group announces the availability of The Best of MOUG, containing listings of Library of Congress name authority file numbers for works by J.S. Bach, J. Haydn, W.A. Mozart, F. Schubert, and A. Vivaldi. This useful compilation is available from: Ann McCollough, MOUG Secretary/ Newsletter Editor, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music, 26 Gibbs Street, Rochester, NY 14604, for the price of \$5.00. Please make checks payable to Music OCLC Users Group.

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The Allen Memorial Library of the Hartt School of Music is selling copies of back issues of the Schwann Record and Tape Guides and Artist Issues dating from 1960 to 1986. The issues are available for \$1.00 each. If interested, please contact Ethel Bacon at Allen Memorial Library, Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117.

~~~POSITION OPENING~~~

Due to increased family (!) and professional commitments, the Editor of this Newsletter would like to relinquish the job at the end of her three year term this fall. If you are interested in displaying your creativity, getting to know the membership, increasing your level of activity in NEMLA, or all of the above, please contact Paula Matthews, NEMLA Chair, at the Ladd Library, Bates College, Lewiston, ME 04240. Note: access to a computer is definitely a plus!

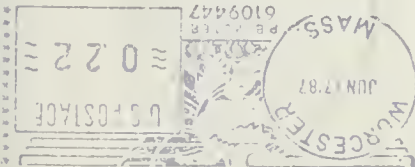


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Robert L. Loud
64 Conant Road
Lincoln MA 01773

Dawn R. Thistle, Newsletter Editor
Music Library Association/New England Chapter
Music Library
College of the Holy Cross
1 College Street
Worcester, MA 01610



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Secretary/Treasurer: Patricia B.M. Brennan, Rhode Island College
Member-At-Large: Pamela Juengling, University of Massachusetts

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